

Department of Corrections

Objective: The Board of Pardons & Parole will carry out statutory obligations in the best way possible.

| Strategy | Initiative | Who? | Measure |
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| | Goal: Administer the release of eligible offenders before the completion of their sentences based on parole decision-making guidelines and professional judgment. Revisit parole guidelines scores for sexual and violent crimes to ensure these types are accurately considered. | | |
| Release of eligible offenders | 1. Administer the release of eligible offenders before the completion of their sentences based on parole decision-making guidelines and professional judgment. Operations will continue to explore new way to ensure the Board has all relevant information. Continue to meet with Department of Corrections (DOC) on a monthly basis. Have collaborative working relationships with (DOC), including American Correctional Association (ACA), Association of Paroling Authorities International (APAI), Council of State Government (CSG), and Crime and Justice Institute (CJI) | 1. Parole Board Members 2. Chief of Staff | 1. Continue to utilize recommendations by Council of State Government (CSG). 2. Utilize Board's dashboard and review appearing types and outcomes. Investigate and understand current trends. 3. Continue to provide and track relevant education for professional Board members in carrying out statutory obligations. 4. Continue to work with CSG on understanding guideline scores for sexual and violent offenders. |

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| | Goal:Consider public safety when making parole or executive clemency decisions | | |
| Public Safety | 1. Consider public safety when making parole or executive clemency decisions. Gathering of information is a key component of public safety and clemency matters. Ensure the Board has information in Offender Information Management System (OMIS), public has access to scheduled hearings and disposition information. Ensure victim services can communicate effectively and provide positive support pre and post hearings. | 1. Parole Board Members 2. Operational Staff 3. Chief of Staff | 1. Through strategic planning, the Board of Pardons and Parole will investigate the past and honestly assess what was achieved and identify what needs are priority in the future. The Board is focused on operations and customer service. The Board identified deficits with information on website, and not interfacing information with the Montana Department of Corrections to better service the public and prison population. Critical component for all the correctional professionals who are part of the parole and executive clemency process. Migrate all hearing information to Offender Management Information System (OMIS) in concert with implementing document imaging. Process is imperative so that all correctional stake holders can view Board hearing information and offender documents related to parole. 2. Ongoing review of public and victim comment of information through public website and/or direct contact in Deer Lodge. |

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| | Goal: Ensure that offenders complete risk reducing treatment and programming that addresses their criminogenic risks and needs. | | |
| Verify Risk Reduction treatment and programming offered by Department of Corrections | Verifying offenders completed risk reducing treatment and programming that addresses their criminogenic risks and needs. The Board will keep current on programming through reoccurring meeting with the Department of Corrections. This is important to articulates in dispositions, so offenders have clear understanding how needs are essential in determining risk reduction strategies with the parole officer who will be ultimately assigned to supervise. | 1. Board Members 2. Chief of Staff | Schedule regular meetings with relevant stake holders (case managers, Intuitional Parole Officers, Treatment Services) within the corrections system, This is measured through public meeting notices. |

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| | Goal: Provide the necessary resources and training for Board members to make appropriate release and revocation decisions based on evidence-based practices and sound professional judgment. | | |
| Provide necessary resources and training | Necessary resources and training for Board members to make appropriate release and revocation decisions are essential in being committed to evidence-based principles. Seek out and identify training through, ACA, APAI, CJI, DOC that best captures the needs of needs of the Board. | 1. Board members 2. Chief of Staff 3. Victim/Witness Coordinator | Utilize the Board dashboard in reviewing past hearings as it relates to revocation. Identify current trends and understand the reported statistical information. Review training records and provided feedback. Having the Board collectively discuss if training is on target. |

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| | Goal: Maintain and strengthen relationships with the public, victims, criminal justice colleagues, family members, media, and other agencies. | | |
| Public Trust | Through strategic planning, the Board of Pardons and Parole had to investigate the past and honestly assess what was achieved and identify what has needs to be done in the future. In FY 2022, the Board focused on operations and customer service. The Board identified deficits with information on website, and not interfacing information with the Montana Department of Corrections to better service the public and prison population. This was critical for all the correctional professionals who are part of the parole and executive clemency process. The Board migrated all hearing information in February 2022 to Offender Management Information System (OMIS) in concert with implementing document imaging. This was and is imperative so that all correctional stake holders can view Board hearing information and offender documents related to parole. With the assistance of Department of Corrections (DOC), the Board was able to go back the past 5 years and update appearances before the Board. Further, monthly meetings will occur with all DOC units to ensure that the Board can stay on task with the goals set forth. FY 2023 and beyond, the Board of Pardons and Parole will continue to improve, and with quality control mechanisms in place for decision making, training, monthly staffing, and public transparency. | 1. Board members 2. Chief of Staff 3. Operational Staff 4. Victim/Witness coordinator | Hold meetings with all DOC units to ensure that the Board can stay on task with the goal set forth. In FY 2023 the Board of Pardons and Parole continues to improve, utilizing quality control mechanisms in place as it relates to decision making, training, monthly staffing, and public transparency. |

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| | Goal: Review Administrative Rules for Executive Clemency. | | |
| Update Executive Clemency Administrative Rule. | Board updated Administrative Rules July 8, 2022, Executive Clemency was not addressed. | 1. Board Members 2. Chief of Staff | Board will address section. Measure will be filed with Secretary of State. |

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